

DEC. 21 2007

Attorney Docket: 00431
U.S. Application No.: 09/784,905 Art Unit: 2623 Examiner: S. Beliveau
Response to October 2, 2007 Office Action**AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Currently Amended) A method for allowing programming providers to offer subscribers programming events, the method comprising:
 - a. associating events spanning multiple channels over non-contiguous time slots to create packages ;
 - b. generating an electronic programming guide, the electronic programming guide having a programming grid simultaneously listing a wrapper associated with each package and each package's associated events, the wrapper surrounding all the associated events for each package, the programming grid also simultaneously listing a start time and a stop time of each event associated with each package;
the electronic programming guide having a first mode in which inputs to a navigator scroll from one wrapper to another wrapper, and
the electronic programming guide having a second mode in which inputs to the navigator scroll from an event to ~~another the same~~ event between different packages;
 - c. recognizing the non-contiguous events; and
 - d. in response to recognizing the non-contiguous events, prompting to switch from the first mode to the second mode;
 - e. detecting a keystroke input to a control device;
 - f. if the keystroke input is a cursor key to the navigator, then determining whether the electronic programming guide is in the first mode or the second mode; and
 - g. if the keystroke input is not the cursor key to the navigator, then determining whether the keystroke input is a zoom key.
2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein associating the events comprises combining the events that are related by content, time, channel or source.

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3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising relating wherein the wrapper relates to each package's associated events, such that the electronic programming guide simultaneously lists each package's wrapper and each package's associated events.
4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising highlighting each wrapper as the navigator scrolls from one package to another package.
5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising expanding the electronic programming guide to include channel information concerning at least one event associated with a package.
6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising collapsing wherein the electronic programming guide further comprises a collapsed mode in which such that only time information concerning the package is are displayed.
7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising expanding wherein the electronic programming guide further comprises an expanded mode in which such that time and channel information concerning the events is are displayed.
8. (Currently Amended) A method for offering users additional programming information concerning events of interest, comprising:

receiving an electronic programming guide having events spanning multiple channels over non-contiguous time slots associated with packages, the electronic programming guide having a programming grid simultaneously listing a wrapper associated with each package and each package's associated events, the wrapper surrounding all the associated events for each package, the programming grid also simultaneously listing a start time and a stop time of each event associated with each package;

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receiving an input to a navigator that selects a first mode in which the navigator scrolls from one wrapper to another wrapper within the electronic programming guide;
receiving another input to the navigator that selects a second mode in which the navigator scrolls from an event to the another event between different packages;
recognizing the non-contiguous events; and
in response to recognizing the non-contiguous events, prompting to switch from the first mode to the second mode;
detecting a keystroke input to a control device;
if the keystroke input is a cursor key to the navigator, then determining whether the electronic programming guide is in the first mode or the second mode;
if the keystroke input is not the cursor key to the navigator, then determining whether the keystroke input is a zoom key;
if the electronic programming guide is in the second mode, then determining whether an adjoining event cell to be selected is part of a same package or part of a different package; and
if the adjoining event cell is part of the same package, then highlighting the adjoining event cell within the same package in a direction represented by the cursor key.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein receiving the electronic programming guide comprises receiving information selected from the group consisting of [[:]] pricing, content and scheduling information.
10. (Currently Amended) A system processing an electronic programming guide ("EPG"), comprising:

means for receiving events spanning multiple channels over non-contiguous time slots associated with packages;

means for storing the electronic programming guide in the memory, the electronic programming guide having a programming grid that simultaneously lists a wrapper

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associated with each package and each package's associated events, the wrapper surrounding all the associated events for each package, the programming grid also simultaneously listing a start time and a stop time of each event associated with each package;

means for producing a first mode of the electronic programming guide in which inputs to a navigator scroll from one wrapper to another wrapper;

means for producing a second mode of the electronic programming guide in which inputs to the navigator scroll from an event to another ~~the~~ event between different packages;

means for recognizing the non-contiguous events; and

in response to recognizing the non-contiguous events, means for prompting a user to switch from the first mode to the second mode;

means for detecting a keystroke input to a control device;

if the keystroke input is a cursor key to the navigator, then means for determining whether the electronic programming guide is in the first mode or the second mode;

if the keystroke input is not the cursor key to the navigator, then means for determining whether the keystroke input is a zoom key;

if the electronic programming guide is in the second mode, then means for determining whether an adjoining event cell to be selected is part of a same package or part of a different package; and

if the adjoining event cell is part of the same package, then means for highlighting the adjoining event cell within the same package in a direction represented by the cursor key.

11. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 10, wherein the control device is inputs are ~~received from~~ a remote control.
12. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 10, further comprising means for receiving ~~wherein the processor is adapted to receive~~ a command to cause a display to show

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package information in a collapsed mode in which only limited scheduling information concerning a package's events are displayed.

13. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 10, further comprising means for implementing wherein the processor implements a zoom mode in which additional information is accessed, the additional information describing an event within a package.
14. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 10, wherein when a package comprises non-contiguous events, then means for processor implementing commands to the navigator that scrolls to a next time and a next channel of an associated event within a package.
15. (Currently Amended) A method for organizing and presenting program information within an electronic programming guide, the method comprising:

receiving events spanning multiple channels over non-contiguous time slots associated with packages;

receiving the electronic programming guide, the electronic programming guide having a programming grid that simultaneously lists a wrapper associated with each package and each package's associated events, the wrapper surrounding all the associated events for each package, the programming grid also simultaneously listing a start time and a stop time of each event associated with each package;

receiving an input that causes a navigator to scroll from one wrapper to another wrapper;

receiving another input that causes the navigator to scroll from an event to another ~~the~~ event between different packages;

recognizing the non-contiguous events; and

in response to recognizing the non-contiguous events, prompting to switch from a first mode to a second mode;

detecting a keystroke input to a control device;

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if the keystroke input is a cursor key to the navigator, then determining whether the electronic programming guide is in the first mode or the second mode;

if the keystroke input is not the cursor key to the navigator, then determining whether the keystroke input is a zoom key;

if the electronic programming guide is in the second mode, then determining whether an adjoining event cell to be selected is part of a same package or part of a different package;

if the adjoining event cell is part of the same package, then highlighting the adjoining event cell within the same package in a direction represented by the cursor key;
and

if the adjoining event cell is not part of the same package, then highlighting an adjoining package wrapper in the direction of the cursor key.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, further comprising relating wherein the wrapper relates to the package's associated events, such that the electronic programming guide simultaneously lists the package's wrapper and the package's associated events.
17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein when a package comprises non-contiguous events, then causing the navigator to scroll to a next time and a next channel of an associated event within a package.
18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, further comprising causing each package to be highlighted as the navigator scrolls between packages.
19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, further comprising expanding a package, causing an event within the package to be highlighted, and communicating that the event is being purchased.
20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, further comprising receiving the keystroke input from a remote control.

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21. (Canceled)
22. (Canceled)
23. (Canceled)
24. (Canceled)
25. (Canceled)
26. (Canceled)
27. (Canceled)
28. (Canceled)
29. (Canceled)